Development of Small Hydro Power Projects in North East

270. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the difficulties expressed by the North Eastern States in development of small hydro power projects; and

(b) the details of corrective measures suggested by the Power Finance Corporation in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The difficulties expressed by the North Eastern States in development of small hydro power projects (SHPs) are as under:—

(i) High Capital cost due to remote location and lack of enabling infrastructure;

(ii) poor law and order in internal/remote areas;

(iii) High Cost of supply of power due to scattered load centres with very low load density;

(iv) Non-availability of matching funds/Department's share for completing the projects.

In order to provide an impetus for the development of hydro-electric potential to the North Eastern Region, Ministry of Power has prepared an Action Plan I consultation with North Eastern Electric Power Corporation and State Electricity Boards of all North Eastern States.

Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (MNES) deals with all matter relating small hydel projects (upto 3 MW capacity) and is providing various incentives. Special incentive by way of grant upto Rs. 3 crores per MW is given to the North Eastern States to encourage setting up of small hydro power projects upto 3 MW. Incentives upto Rs. 1.5 lakhs for detailed survey and investigation and upto Rs. 1 lakh for Detailed Project Report preparation are also extended for small hydro power projects upto 3 MW capacity.

To encourage the development of SHPs, Power Finance Corporation is financing SHPs to the extent of 60% of the total project cost and offering Interest subsidy of 5% over its normal lending rate on

the disbursements made during the Ninth Five Year Plan Period for on-going SHPs in the North Eastern States.

Power Generation by Private and Public Sectors

271. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total power generated in the country in the private sector during the last three years;

(b) what is the power generated in the public sector during the same period;

(c) which are the States that have privatized the distribution of electricity; and

(d) what is the transmission loss in the private sector power distributing companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The total power generated in the public and private sectors during the last three years is given as under:

Sector	Energy Generation(MU)		
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Public Sector	373101	395171	416958
Private Sector	21699	25451	31422

(c) Private distribution companies already exist in some cities in the states of Maharashtra, West Bengal, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh. Subsequent implementation of reforms, the State Govt. of Orissa has privatised the entire distribution network in recent past.

(d) Privatisation of distribution of electricity in Orissa has been done very recently. Transmission and Distribution (T&D) losses are assessed on an annual basis and, therefore, it is too early to have an assessment of the T&D losses. T&D losses in respect of the private distribution companies existing in some cities of other States are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.